

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A method for stimulating remodeling of blemished skin in a mammal,  
2 comprising administering to the blemished skin of said mammal a composition that  
3 comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount effective to remodel the skin and  
4 diminish or remove the skin blemish.

1           2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the skin blemish is a scar.

1           3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the scar is selected from  
2 the group consisting of a surgical scar, a wound scar, an acne scar, a keloid scar, a burn scar,  
3 and a Sjogren's syndrome scar.

1           4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the skin blemish is selected  
2 from the group consisting of skin tags, calluses, benign skin moles, stretch marks, facial  
3 keratosis, thickened sunspots of the skin, and vitiligo spots.

1           5. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is selected from the  
2 group consisting of copper(II), tin(II), tin(IV), and zinc(II), and therapeutically acceptable  
3 salts and complexes thereof.

1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is copper(II).

1           7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is an enzymatic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat  
3 products, silk protein, or soybean protein.

1           8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is an acid hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk  
3 protein, or soybean protein.

1           9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a basic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk  
3 protein, or soybean protein.

1               10.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a bacterial hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products,  
3 silk protein, or soybean protein.

1               11.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically-synthesized copper binding peptide.

1               12.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic  
2 metal-peptide complex is a chemically-synthesized peptide and the ionic metal is copper(II),  
3 tin(II), tin(IV), or zinc(II).

1               13.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is  
2 administered topically or by injection into the skin.

1               14.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic metal-peptide  
2 complex is combined with a carrier to form a cream or lotion.

1               15.     The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the  
2 ionic metal-peptide complex in the composition is 1% to 25%.

1               16.     A method for inhibiting the development of a scar following a surgical  
2 incision in the skin of a mammal, comprising administering to the skin of said mammal at  
3 the site of said incision a pharmaceutical composition that comprises a ionic metal-peptide  
4 complex in an amount effective to remodel the skin and inhibit development of a scar at said  
5 site.